From: <u>Jeff Frithsen</u>

To: <u>asboraas@kpc.alaska.edu</u>

Subject: Re: Read this article at Mining Weekly

Date: 09/17/2012 03:55 AM

Thanks Alan. We have been circulating this article. Very interesting.

Jeff

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> From: asboraas@kpc.alaska.edu To: Jeff Frithsen/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 09/15/2012 02:07 PM

Subject: Read this article at Mining Weekly

Alan Boraas requested that we email you this information. Their message to you is:

"A recent article in Mining Weekly concerning the Pebble project"

To view this article online, click here.

Pebble mine's problems underline environmental tensions in Alaska

TORONTO (miningweekly.com) – As summer turns to fall in Alaska, mining companies small and large are bringing their primary exploration and development campaigns to a close. They will have also been strengthening community relations and monitoring the environment in which they work. Formulation of plans and feasibility studies that strictly adhere to best environmental practice are, quite rightly, the norm.

That said, environmental scrutiny from various lobby groups, nongovernment organisations and

government departments has never been more stringent. At times the debate can become heated.

This is certainly the case for the Pebble project being developed by the Pebble Limited Partnership (PLP) in south-west Alaska. Located near Lake Iliamna, around 200 miles south-west of Anchorage and near Bristol Bay and the Cook Inlet, the scale of the deposit is world class.

At a 0.30% copperequivalent cut-off, measured and indicated resources stand at 5.94-billion tons, comprising 55-billion pounds copper (2.7-million tons copper), 67million ounces gold and 3.3-billion pounds molybdenum. Inferred resources contain 26-billion pounds copper, 40million ounces gold and 2.3-billion pounds molybdenum.

Exploratory work has been extensive and continues, PLP's CEO **John Shively** told *Mining Weekly Online*.

PLP is a 50:50 joint venture between Northern Dynasty Minerals and Anglo-American. In total, capital expenditure on Pebble will reach \$6.8-billion, he said.

"We have a large resource [and] will start with an openpit on the Pebble West zone, the focus for most of our resource drilling," Shively said.

"We hope to get into permitting some time in 2013. We won't try and permit the whole resource – our aim is to draw up a 20-to 25-year mine plan for a resource that could last from 75 to 100 years," he added.

The operation will be based on a standard openpit template and use froth flotation. Concentrate is likely to be shipped as slurry in a pipeline, following an 86-mile road that will be built to connect the project with a captive port.

"If we have a slurry pipeline, we'll also have a line to return the water once the concentrate is dewatered," Shively said.

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